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01/18/2012 Minutes

Approved
 VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
 SUSTAINABLE ARLINGTON
 January 18, 2012 MEETING
 Town Hall Annex, Second Floor Conference Room

In attendance: Marc Breslow, Ryan Katofsky, Laura Notman, DeAnne Dupont, Elizabeth Karpati, Dave Haas, David Landskov, Scot Samenfeld, Brucie Moulton, Michael Wolfson, Jeremy Bingham, Jackson Kusiak, Maxwell Shaw-Jones, Nathan Lobel
 Facilitator: Gail McCormick Minutes: Charlotte Milan

Next meetings: Wed. March 21, Wed. April 18, Wed. May 16, Wed. June 18

- Ryan reviewed with us the presentation he gave to the School Committee in December 2011 as a member of the Energy Working Group. Average NE home uses 8000 Kwh hours of electricity a year
 - o Paid for by the Solar Renewable Energy Credits, or SRECs, requires the Town to buy commodity credits of renewable energy, which are selling \$.50 Kwh hours. Saving/generating \$1600 per year for the Town PLUS we'll receive revenues
 - o Anyone can log into a website to view power generated
 - o Ryan will provide us and Mr. Weathers (head of Science for the APS) links and further information in order to promote use by schools for curriculum integration.
 - o Cheaper for the Town to generate our own electricity than to buy it
 - o Solar rebates have gone down at state level, but the systems are so affordable, and the competition is hot, due to SRECs- which is the driving mechanism
 - o When the building is not using all the power its generating the meter runs backwards
 - o Requests for Proposals will be prepared by the Town in the near future
- Jeremy Bingham spoke about mountain top removal of coal and the activism going on in West Virginia. The organization Ramps is spearheading the coordination of the disparate groups that were working in more isolation.
- Jeremy and Maxwell reported that legislative actions around fracking in Ohio are more likely to have an affect than efforts that have been in West Virginia. See ohiofraction.com, the organization they're working with, for resources and links to studies.
- We spoke with Nathan and Jackson from the Young Democrat Club at AHS about their interest in solar panels, getting lights turned off overnight at AHS, and showing a film about fracking/mountaintop removal.
- Energy saving behavior is something HS students could observe, collect data,
- 1000 streetlights replaced with LED, and the Town has put aside funds for all the rest of them
- Save the Silver Maple Forrest fundraising concert is on Feb 4
- Bracket School will run food waste audit next week
- SA members will join surrounding communities this Saturday to share ideas and coordinate actions around Climate Change.